

KANSAS DENTAL BOARD

January 2008

Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson St., Ste 564S, Topeka, KS 66612-1572

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Email: info@dental.state.ks.us Visit our website at www.kansas.gov/kdb/

...Our mission is to protect the public

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Statistics 1/4/08

Total Dentists	2025	Level I Sedation Permits	25
Practicing in KS	1413	Level II Sedation Permits	53
Total Hygienists	2134	Extended Care I Permits	30
Practicing in KS	1529	Extended Care II Permits	44

Board meeting dates: Feb.1, May 2, Aug. 1, 2008, Landon State Office Bldg, Room 106 at 9:00 am.

HYGIENE RENEWALS

The staggered renewal process with the hygienists is going along very well. Thank you all for your cooperation in this challenging renewal year. As of 1/4/08 we have renewed 444 hygienists on-line and 1501 paper renewals, total of 1945. If you have not received a renewal form, you may have changed your address without notifying the board. In that event, fax or email us your current address, and a form will be mailed to you. We assess a \$50 processing fee for failing to provide an updated address, but at least, you will be able to renew. If the licensee waits until after February 1, there is a \$500 fine. On March 1, 2008 if you fail to renew, your license will be cancelled.

RETIRING YOUR LICENSE

If you are not planning to practice hygiene or dentistry, then you may wish to request in writing that your license be placed into retired status. You can do this at renewal time also. Once retired, you may only practice as a volunteer in a charitable setting. You may not own a dental practice. You will still renew your retired license, but there is no renewal fee, and no CE requirement. If you decide you wish to return to active status, you will have to pay a prorated renewal fee and make up the CE according to KAR 71-4-2. There is a grid for how many hours are required, for example - 100 CE hours for five years of retirement for a dentist, and 50 hours for five years of retirement for a hygienist.

FIRST HYGIENE RENEWAL AND ON-LINE PIONEER – CONGRATULATIONS!

The first hygienist to renew this year (and she did it on-line) was Ms. Dawn McGlasson, RDH of Topeka on October 3, 2007. She was a willing volunteer to see if the online renewal system worked. It did. Our thanks to Dawn.

LEGISLATION

The board is seeking two minor revisions to the Dental Practices Act. The proposed revision of KSA 65-1434 regarding licensure by credentials would increase the CEs required to twenty-four months (from the current twelve months). This revision is designed to insure that applicants who are seeking licenses from other states by credentials will have the same requirement for continuing education as Kansas licensed dentists and hygienists.

We are also seeking a revision of KSA 65-1423. The change would allow out of state licensed dental hygienists to do "hands-on teaching" in Kansas. Currently the dentists are allowed under KSA 65-1423 (5)(a). The change would insert "or licensed dental hygienist" and would allow this practice for hygienists as well as dentists.

DR. RON HUERTER'S SERVICE IS RECOGNIZED

The board invited Dr. Ron Huerter of Prairie Village to the September 21, 2007 meeting in order to thank him for his many years of service to the Well Being Committee. The Well Being Committee of the KDA is sponsored by the Board and is assisted by the Heart of America Professional Network (HAPN). Dr. Huerter was Chairman of the committee for 18 years. As chairman he helped with the progress of those individuals who were having problems with impairments. He has helped many dental professionals to get on the right track, saving lives and careers. In a very thought provoking presentation he described that we should not judge people with addictions. "Addiction is one of the most curable and yet treatable

diseases.” Those people who have the disease of addiction, whether alcohol or drugs, are “human beings traveling through life that just became derailed.” Thank you, Dr. Huerter, for your service to the profession.

BOARD ACTIONS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER (Sept 2007)

Board Orders are posted on the website, select “board actions” under the What’s New heading. Below are summaries since the last newsletter, from the September 21, 2007 Board meeting:

Larry Hargreaves, DDS -The order is based upon administering liquid Versed to sedate a child. The dentist professed to use the DOCS program for the protocol for the sedation of a child; however the DOCS program does not have protocol for children. He did not have a reversal agent for the drug. He was fined \$500.

Harry Kouri, DDS - The order is based upon a review of records that indicated a lack of periodontal charting, a lack of adequate radiographs and other deficiencies. He was fined \$500 and ordered to take 8 hours of CE on periodontics and 8 hours on diagnosis and record-keeping.

James Pinkerton, DDS - The order is based upon substandard endodontic treatment. Eight teeth needed retreatment. He was fined \$6700. His practice is limited to no endodontic therapy until the completion of 30 hours of CE on endodontic therapy.

Ryan Loudon, DMD – Emergency Order of Suspension, based upon prescribing excessive amounts of controlled substances, and personal use of nitrous oxide.

Board meeting Nov 11, 2007

Dr. Larry Gangel, DDS - The order is based upon ordering and self administering controlled substances outside the scope of dentistry. He shall enter into an agreement with the Kansas Dental Impaired Provider Program for one year.

Jill Hanson, RDH –License granted pending documentation from the Nebraska Board that would indicate her license is not currently under investigation and copies of her Nebraska application indicating that her misdemeanors were revealed on the Nebraska application.

BOARD INTERPRETATIONS

Board meeting Nov. 11, 2007

The board will consider only those students who scored a 75% or higher on each section of a regional clinical examination to be eligible for licensure.

COMPLIANCE TIPS

Avoid misunderstanding and complaints. Informed consent means that the patient is thoroughly informed of each dental condition and the possible consequences if untreated, as well as the various treatment options with explanation of each procedure, risks and possible complication. You may prefer and recommend a certain treatment, but it is not your choice to make. It is the patient who should choose their treatment, and it is up to the provider to give the patient good information to pick the best option, and choose if they will provide the treatment selected by the patient. If you don't agree with their choice, tell them why and help them find another dentist. Remember, most people prefer to be involved in decisions about what happens to them rather than being told what to do with no say in the matter.

RESOLUTIONS FOR DENTAL PROFESSIONALS

The following are resolutions that dental professionals can make for the New Year to improve themselves and the dental profession. Some of these apply more to dentists, but everyone can learn from all of them:

1. Become familiar with the scope of practice for your profession and of the employees under your supervision.
2. Do not perform duties outside of your scope of practice or delegate duties to your employees that are not within their scope of practice.
3. Do not practice without a current license/permit issued by the Kansas Dental Board.
4. Keep your credentials available in each practice location.
5. Review the advertisements for your practice to be sure the information is not misleading and does not claim superiority.
6. Communicate clearly and respectfully with all patients, staff and colleagues. If you are uncomfortable with communicating or do not seem to be communicating clearly, consider attending a course to improve your skills.
7. Make sure all patients understand their options, the risks and benefits, the costs, and obtain informed consent for treatment before you begin treatment.

8. Listen to patients and staff. Listen to their concerns and problems with an open mind.
9. Never hesitate to assist dissatisfied patients. If necessary, refund the patient and refer them to another dentist.
10. If it becomes necessary to sever the dentist patient relationship, follow proper procedure for that.
11. When in doubt, refer. Recognize that you may sometimes need to refer patients to someone better qualified to treat their problem. Don't try to perform procedures that you are not qualified to treat or are not familiar with treating.
12. Remember, it is better to prevent problems than to "cure" them. Remember you can not "fix" everything nor do everything yourself.
13. Carefully research new techniques and do not rely solely on a manufacturer's claims.
14. Do not over-treat patients! Be reasonable with treatment plans and fees.
15. First, do no harm! Take care of your patients and they will take care of you.
16. The Board does not tolerate dishonesty. Read and understand before you sign any Board documents (including renewal applications) and do not alter records for your or the Board's benefit.
17. Encourage any dental professional who is impaired due to the use of alcohol or other drugs to obtain assistance and treatment from the Kansas Dental Well Being Program at Heart of America Professional Network (HAPN) 913-236-7575.
18. Be aware of patients seeking controlled substances and of your prescribing authority.
19. Complete continuing education for professional development throughout the year. Create a file for the certificates and file them, each time, in case of an audit by the board.
20. Abide by the statutes and regulations of the Dental Board at all times. You are encouraged to read and follow them as you practice your profession. They are available on the website for free.

Please follow these resolutions throughout this year and ever year to prevent problems, complaints and possible disciplinary action against you and your license.

Adapted from the Nebraska Board of Dentistry Newsletter, who adapted from the Tennessee Board of Dentistry newsletter.

JURISPRUDENCE EXAM QUESTION

The board must be notified in writing within 30 days when a dentist establishes or changes his/her practice location.

Exam Answer: True

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